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S E C R E T MUSCAT 001498

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SUBJECT: EMBASSY MUSCAT EAC - 10/05/2005

REF: MUSCAT 1461

Classified By: Deputy Chief of Mission William R. Stewart.
Reason: 1.4(c).

Summary

1. (SBU) The Ambassador chaired a meeting of the Emergency Action Committee (EAC) on October 5 to review the Embassy's security posture prior to the local weekend. Members noted no substantive changes in the local security environment since the last meeting. Accordingly, the EAC agreed that the Embassy's already heightened security posture and force protection condition (FPCON) remain appropriate. End Summary.

Local Security Situation

2. (SBU) On October 5, the Ambassador chaired a meeting of the core EAC to review the Embassy's security posture prior to the local weekend. The meeting opened with a discussion of the local security situation, which the EAC continued to characterize as stable. Likewise, the EAC noted no/no new threat reporting specific to Oman.

Sustained Vigilance

3. (SBU) Prior to concluding the meeting, A/RSO reiterated that, despite the relative calm, members of the EAC must continue reinforcing to both their staffs and family members the need for vigilance regarding all aspects of personal security - to include maintaining a low profile, and remaining unpredictable and situationally aware. Furthermore, A/RSO stressed the importance of immediately reporting any security-related concerns or incidents to Post One. The EAC was reminded that extra care should be taken during Ramadan to avoid drawing unnecessary attention to oneself, and to remain aware of cultural sensitivities during Islam's holy month of fasting.

EAC Conclusion

4. (S/NF) The EAC concluded that there have been no substantive changes in the local security environment since the last meeting held on October 1 (reftel). Accordingly, members agreed that the Embassy's already heightened security posture and FPCON remain appropriate. Embassy Muscat remains acutely aware of the need to monitor both the regional and local security and threat environments, and is prepared to take the necessary countermeasures should changes to either occur. AMB, DCM, P/E, PAO, MGT, A/RSO, SIMO, CONS, OMC (USDR), and ECA (USCENTAF) participated in the meeting.
BALTIMORE